

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant appreciates the consideration shown by the Office, as evidenced by the Office Action, mailed on 10 August 2005. In that Office Action, the Examiner objected to the specification, rejected claims 1, 9-13, and 16, objected to claims 2-8, 14, 15, 17-19, 35, and 47, and allowed claims 20-34, 36-46, and 48-79. After consideration of the Office Action, claim 1 has been canceled, and claims 2, 9-19, 35, and 47 have been amended. Claims 2-72 are under consideration in the present application. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application by the Examiner in light of the above amendments and the following remarks offered in response to the Office Action.

In response to the Examiner's helpful suggestion, Applicant has amended paragraphs 27 and 30 to explicitly recite the wording of claims 10-12. Applicant requests that the objection be removed.

In response to the Examiner's helpful suggestion, Applicant has amended claims 35 and 47 to depend from the proper claims (claims 33 and 44 respectively). Applicant thanks the Examiner for noting the earlier dependency error and requests that the objection be removed.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1, 9-13, and 16 under 35 USC 102(b) over WO9966102. However, to expedite prosecution, and in light of the Office Action indication that claim 2 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims, applicant has canceled claim 1, amended claim 2 to include the limitations of claim 1, and amended claims 9-13 and 16 to depend from claim 2. Applicants therefore request withdrawal of the rejection on WO9966102.

Claims 2-8, 14, 15, and 17-19 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The Examiner indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 2, from which claims 3-8 depend, was written in independent form. Claim 14 was rewritten in independent form. Claim 15 was amended to depend from claim 15, and claims 17-19 were rewritten in independent form.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is needed to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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